

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7102

BILL NUMBER: HB 1234

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 23, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Public Safety Officer Death Benefit.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Ruppel

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill extends the special death benefit of \$150,000 for a public safety officer who dies in the line of duty to a special deputy who is employed by a political subdivision and to certain airport police officers and firefighters.

Effective Date: July 1, 2006.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *\$150,000 Special Death Benefit:* Adding a new group of potential recipient beneficiaries of the Special Death Benefit Fund may increase expenditures from this fund. Currently, there are approximately 9,010 individuals covered by the Special Death Benefit Fund. The average number of deaths for which benefits are paid is 3.25 per year. Specific data on the number of special deputies and to certain airport police officers and firefighters who meet the definition as described in this proposal are not known.

As an illustration, adding 100 special deputies and certain airport police officers and firefighters would increase the number of individuals eligible by 1.10%.

IC 5-10-10-4 established the Special Death Benefit Fund, which receives funding from a \$5 fee collected for each bail bond issued. As of December 10, 2005, the balance in the Special Death Benefit Fund amounted to \$1,259,000. The payment for each line-of-duty death is \$150,000. The following table shows the annual payout from the fund and the number of deaths each year since FY 1998.

Special Death Benefit Fund Under IC 5-10-10-4.		
Fiscal Year Ending	Amount Paid	Number of Line-of-Duty Deaths
6/30/05	\$300,000	2*
6/30/04	\$600,000*	4*
6/30/03	\$150,000	1
6/30/02	\$750,000	5
6/30/01	\$450,000	3
6/30/00	\$900,000	6
6/30/99	\$300,000	2
6/30/98	\$450,000	3
TOTAL	\$3,900,000	26
Average/Year	\$487,500	3.25
*\$300,000 accrued on 6/30/04, but was actually paid in FY 2005.		

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Public Employees' Retirement Fund as administrators of the Special Death Benefit Fund.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Col. Tom Parker, Public Employees' Retirement Fund, 317-233-4146.

Fiscal Analyst: James Sperlik, 317-232-9866.